



Early Childhood Iowa Monday Musings April 10, 2017 Vol. 4, No. 12

Welcome to the ECI **Monday Musings**. It is a compilation of information, practical advice, training announcements, and/or success stories. **Monday Musings** is intended to disseminate information to Early Childhood Iowa Stakeholders in a timely fashion. (We may on occasion send out a separate email with information if it needs immediate attention or if for a specific audience.)

Please let us know if you have something you would like to contribute or have suggestions or comments at jeffrey.anderson@iowa.gov

Back Issues of Monday Musing are available [here](#).

“Some people skate to the puck. I skate to where the puck is going to be.”

- Wayne Gretzky

State Information

ECI Family Support Performance Measures Pilot

The Iowa Department of Public Health and ECI Office staff will lead a pilot project to modify the required performance measures for ECI funded family support programs. Programs may volunteer to participate in the pilot project. To volunteer a program will participate in up to three telephone calls over the next year. The first call will be to determine what additional measures they would like to collect this year that are already contained within the DAISEY system but are not required. The pilot programs will collect all required ECI data plus one to two additional measures depending upon the decisions made by the group. They will begin data collection on July 1, 2017 and continue through the fiscal year. The pilot group will then form a recommendation to the state ECI board on any modifications (deletions and additions) to the required performance measures. Recommendations, if approved, would go into effect on July 1, 2018.

While there is a viable number programs to conduct the pilot, there is room for more. To volunteer to participate in the pilot, please contact Julie at: Julie.Thcounkeu@idph.iowa.gov

The first meeting of the group will be held on **April 27, 2017** from 10 am to 11:30 am via zoom.

“OUCH! The Stereotype Hurts”

ISU Extension and Outreach is offering “OUCH! The Stereotype Hurts” -- a curriculum is designed for agencies, businesses and groups interested in promoting feelings of inclusion. The workshop, based on the book by Leslie C. Aguilar, will help participants understand the impact of stereotypes and biased statements, identify the most common reasons people sit silently in the face of bias and stereotypes, and enhance skills for speaking up against stereotypes. During the two-hour course, participants will learn six specific techniques to use when responding to difficult situations. Groups or communities interested in the “OUCH! That Stereotype Hurts” workshop can contact **Malisa Rader** at mrader@iastate.edu or their local ISU Extension and Outreach human sciences specialist in family life.

ECI Sponsors “Connections Matter” Workshop

A **“Connections Matter”** workshop will be held the morning of May 9, 2017, prior to the quarterly ECI Stakeholders Alliance meeting. The workshop will be held at the Johnston (Iowa) Library, 9:30 AM – Noon.

Presented by **Prevent Child Abuse Iowa**, you will learn how to deliver a 20-minute and 50-minute presentation in settings such as networking lunch-and-learns, neighborhood groups, faith meetings and community planning sessions. Trained presenters will receive PowerPoint slides with notes and takeaway materials to hand out. Attendees will also learn about other resources to support awareness efforts.

Anyone is welcome to become a trained advocate! As a trained presenter, you will be able to train other presenters. We can also connect you with others working on this effort in your community.

To register for the workshop: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZKXCZ6N>

Federal Information:

Federal Agencies Release Joint Policy Statement to Support the Alignment of Health and Early Learning Systems

The purpose of this Policy Statement is to support States and communities in their efforts to better coordinate, align, and enhance health and early learning systems to promote the healthy development, early learning, and well-being of all children from birth to Kindergarten entry in the United States. This statement is intended for State and local policy-makers and administrators of systems, agencies, and programs responsible for children’s health, social-emotional development, and early learning to understand their role and take steps to improve the integration of services for young children. The first years of life build the foundation for life-long health and wellness, educational achievement and economic security. A child’s health directly affects her or his ability to learn, grow, and thrive. Similarly, high-quality early learning opportunities for children have long-term positive impacts on their health, even into adulthood. Access to quality healthcare, nutrition, safe environments, and stable, nurturing, and stimulating relationships with parents and caregivers are each critical to building a strong early childhood foundation. Too often our health care and early learning systems operate in silos, missing key opportunities to maximize both the health and early learning outcomes of children. Coordination and alignment between health systems and early learning systems have the potential to help ensure that each child’s needs are identified, referrals to needed services are made and completed, services are not duplicated, and the messages that families hear are clear, aligned, and consistently reinforced to ensure that children and their families thrive.

To read the Policy Statement: [Alignment of Health and Early Learning Systems](#)

Head Start Sandbox

The latest issue of The Head Start Sandbox is now available. The Head Start Sandbox is a free online regional magazine featuring news about Head Start in the Region VII area (Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska). To access the Winter 2017 issue go to:

https://issuu.com/mikebaugher/docs/head_start_sandbox_r7_winter_2017_w?utm_source=Your+Winter+Sand+Box+is+ready%21&utm_campaign=Sand+Box+Winter&utm_medium=email

Other Information:

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. This year's theme: Connections Matter. Science tells us that relationships have the power to shape our brains. Relationships help us learn better, work better, parent better. When we experience tough times, they help us heal. With each connection, we develop a healthier, stronger community. Child Abuse Prevention month will highlight this importance of social support as a key protective factor during the month of April.

Child Abuse Prevention Month resources are available on the PCA Iowa website

<http://www.pcaiowa.org/grantees/public-awareness/child-abuse-prevention-month/> and open to anyone who would like to use them. Included are:

- a. Social media posts (with images)
- b. Posters
- c. Website banners
- d. Sample letter to the editor
- e. Sample newsletter copy
- f. Infographic
- g. Sample activities
- h. Radio PSA
- i. TV PSA
- j. Billboard graphics
- k. Sticker graphics
- l. Bookmarks
- m. Tee shirt

Trauma-Informed Care Conference

The TIC Conference registration is now open. The conference is on June 6 & 7, 2017 at the Airport Holiday Inn (Des Moines). The link to register is <http://tinyurl.com/TIC2017hm>

The conference *Trauma-Informed Care: The Impact of Trauma on Brain Development and What To Do About It* is scheduled for two days with Day 2 building on the content of Day 1.

Over the course of this two day training experts Dr. Bruce D. Perry from The Child Trauma Academy and Dr. J. Stuart Ablon from Think:Kids at Massachusetts General Hospital will come together to make complicated neurodevelopmental concepts accessible and provide a practical evidence-based process for trauma-informed intervention that all adults can follow in any setting.

Dr. Perry and Dr. Ablon will integrate The Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics (NMT) and Collaborative Problem Solving (CPS). You will learn an overview of both of these approaches and practical examples of strategies for their integrated implementation. It will build on two years of collaboration between Dr. Perry and Dr. Ablon to combine the models in practical clinical application. The conference is intended both for those new to NMT and/or CPS or those skilled in their application.

Also, the documentary “*Resilience*” will be shown on Wed, June 7th from 7:30-8:30am and is open to the public. You do not have to register for the conference to view the documentary.

Five Numbers to Remember About Early Childhood Development

1. More than 1 Million New Neural Connections Per Second
2. 18 Months: Age At Which Disparities in Vocabulary Begin to Appear
3. 90 – 100% Chance of Developmental Delays When Children Experience 6 – 7 Risk Factors
4. 3:1 Odds of Adult Heart Disease After 7 – 8 Adverse Childhood Experiences
5. \$4 - \$9 in Returns For Every Dollar Invested in Early Childhood Programs

To Learn More: [Five Numbers to Remember](#)

Southeast Iowa Early Childhood Summit – April 29, 2017

Southeast Iowa Early Childhood Summit was created to offer resources that will help support parents and childcare providers in their important roles they play in the lives of our children. We know it can be difficult to be a parent and/or a childcare provide – **WE ARE HERE TO HELP!**

This year, we are focusing on PLAY and the importance of play in our children’s lives. Playtime is an excellent tool that helps us connect with our children and teach important skills. Not only is it important for children, but adults also.

JOIN US FOR THIS YEAR’S FREE JIM GILL CONCERT AND FAMILY CARNIVAL



Get ready to sing, clap, dance and sneeze along during this visit by award-winning musician and author Jim Gill. Jim Gill’s distinctive music play creates the spirit of a family room in the concert hall and is an invitation to children, parents and grandparents to sing and play **together!**

[Learn More About Jim](#)

Child Care providers can receive DHS Training Credit.

To Learn More or to Register: [Southeast Iowa Early Childhood Summit](#)

Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children Spring Leadership Institute: May 6, 2017

The Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children is pleased to announce registration is **now open** for our Spring Leadership Institute, ***Saving Play***, May 6, 2017 at Prairie Meadows Conference Center in Altoona. Led by national expert and author Gaye Gronlund, we will explore integrating play-based learning for children ages birth through six with early learning standards. Two hundred fifty professionals from across the state are expected to gather to learn and network together that day. Teachers, administrators, child development home providers, trainers, higher education faculty, consultants, and policy makers are encouraged to attend. All participants will receive lunch, materials, and a copy of the newly released book, ***Saving Play*** <http://www.redleafpress.org/Saving-Play-Addressing-Standards-through-Play-Based-Learning-in-Preschool-and-Kindergarten-P1636.aspx>. Six hours of approved training credit hours will be provided. Questions? Contact us at events@iowaaeyc.org

AEYC Leadership Fellowships

Iowa AEYC announces the 2017 Leadership Fellowship application process.

The Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children is dedicated to the development of leadership within our field. The Association will award two Leadership Fellowships annually to early childhood educators currently working in the early childhood field in Iowa. These scholarships will enable the successful participants to develop their leadership skills through attendance at state and national professional development opportunities, and in turn they will be expected to provide leadership to the early childhood field in our state.

Applicants must hold at least a baccalaureate degree and be a current Iowa AEYC member. Go to <http://www.iowaaeyc.org/awards-grants-and-scholarships.cfm> for more information.

Iowa Early Care & Education Fall Institute – Proposals Due April 30!

The Iowa Early Care & Education Fall Institute, *Power to the Profession*, is being held September 21-23, 2017 and presentation proposals are due April 30! To learn more and download the **presenter proposal** form or visit the [Iowa AEYC website](#).

Early STEM Matters - Providing High-Quality STEM Experiences for All Young Learners:

A new report from the Erikson Institute, **Early STEM Matters: Providing High-Quality STEM Experiences for All Young Learners** (January 2017), offers guidance around the development and improvement of effective early childhood science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education policies and practices. It describes four guiding principles related to early childhood STEM education and six actionable recommendations for educational leaders, researchers, funders and policymakers at the local, state, and federal levels. The report is the culmination of two years of work by the Early Childhood STEM Working Group, which includes scholars, policy makers, curriculum developers, and educators from across the U.S.

Developing Culturally Responsive Approaches to Serving Diverse Populations: A Resource Guide for Community-Based Organizations

As the U.S. grows more diverse, community based organizations (CBOs) are serving an increasingly diverse group of children and families. In this changing environment, developing cultural competence—behaviors, attitudes, and policies that enable organizations to work effectively in cross-cultural situations—is critical.

A [new resource guide](#) from the [National Research Center on Hispanic Children & Families](#) helps community-based organizations find relevant resources for choosing, adapting, or developing interventions; ensuring workforce diversity; budgeting for culturally competent programs, and more.

For more information about Early Childhood Iowa, visit our website:

<http://www.earlychildhoodiowa.org/>

To join the ECI Stakeholders, please complete the commitment survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FSXR5F2>

2017 ECI Meeting Calendar:

ECI State Board

10:00 – 1:00

June 2

September 8

November 3

ECI Stakeholders Alliance

3 – 4 Hour meetings

May 9 (PM)

September 12 (AM)

December 12 (PM)

ECI Area Directors

April 19 All day

(June will be regional meetings)

September 12 (afternoon)

December 6 All day

ECI Steering Committee

Time Varies

June 1 (9:00 AM – Noon)

August 3 (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM)

October 5 (9:00 AM – Noon)

November 2 (9:00 AM – Noon)